

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-37

**RESOLUTION ADOPTING CITY OF FOREST GROVE WATERSHED LAND
ACQUISITION POLICY GUIDELINES AS APPENDIX E TO THE 2013
WATERSHED STEWARDSHIP MANAGEMENT PLAN**

WHEREAS, The City Council identified developing a land acquisition process as 2016 Council Objective 1.1; and

WHEREAS, The City Council values the maintenance and improvement of water quality for the residents of Forest Grove; and

WHEREAS, The City of Forest Grove desired to add watershed land acquisition policy guidelines to the 2013 Watershed Stewardship Management Plan adopted by City Council; and

WHEREAS, The City Council participated in Work Session held on March 20 and a presentation was held on May 8, 2017, Council meeting to refine the Watershed Land Acquisition Policy Guidelines; and

WHEREAS, The Watershed Land Acquisition Policy Guidelines are based on management guidelines and philosophies in the 2013 Watershed Stewardship Management Plan; and


WHEREAS, The Watershed Land Acquisition Policy provides guidance to the City on how to prioritize lands that may be considered for purchase.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY OF FOREST GROVE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The City Council hereby adopts the Watershed Land Acquisition Policy Guidelines as Appendix E to the 2013 Watershed Stewardship Management Plan (attached as Exhibit A).

Section 2. This resolution is effective immediately upon its enactment by the City Council.

PRESENTED AND PASSED this 22nd day of May, 2017.


Anna D. Ruggles, City Recorder

APPROVED by the Mayor this 22nd day of May, 2017.


Peter B. Truax, Mayor

Appendix E Watershed Land Acquisition Policy Guidelines

The Watershed Land Acquisition Policy Guidelines are a tool for the City of Forest Grove to use when looking to purchase, sell or trade lands in and around the City of Forest Grove's watershed. All lands that are being considered for purchase, sell or trade will be brought to the City Council for approval. The following Guidelines are intended to guide the City in land acquisitions but are not intended to prevent the City from executing land acquisitions, sales or trades that have unique circumstances outside of the scope of the guidelines.

The Watershed Land Acquisition Policy Guidelines were created in response to City Council's 2016 Objective 1.1: Watershed Land Acquisition Process. A Work Session was held on March 20, 2017, and draft Guidelines were presented at the May 8, 2017, City Council meeting. Council's comments and feedback were incorporated into the Guidelines.

The Guidelines are based on the management policies and philosophies in the 2013 Watershed Stewardship Management Plan. Lands that surround the City's ownership and drain into the City's water intake structures are identified for acquisition in the 2013 Watershed Stewardship Management Plan.

It is important to note that the watershed lands the City of Forest Grove owns are in the Clear Creek Watershed basin but does not comprise the whole natural watershed drainage basin. The City of Forest Grove owns 4225 acres that are contiguous with some edge lands draining out of the Clear Creek Watershed basin.

The Guidelines give the City of Forest Grove a way to evaluate and prioritize lands in and around the City's ownership. The Guidelines provide a way for properties to be evaluated in three categories: Water Quality, Habitat and Manageability. Each of these categories has questions that give a numerical score. The score from each category is added together to make a total score for the evaluated property.

WATER QUALITY

Water Quality is a category that evaluates the impact of the potential property's impact on and control over the City's drinking water. The water quality category has a maximum score of 50 points. This category is weighted twice as heavy as the other categories. Each question will result in a yes or no. If the question is answered yes, it will be awarded 8.33 points.

The following questions comprise the Water Quality Category:

Is it in a priority sub-basin?

Is more than 5% in a Riparian Management Area?

Is there a fish-bearing stream?

Does the stream flow year-round?

Is it in a high erosion risk area?

Does the property have the potential for a land use change which would result in reduced water quality?

HABITAT

Habitat is a category that evaluates the potential property's vegetation. The habitat category has a maximum score of 25 points. This category accounts for a quarter of the overall score. Each question will result in a yes or no. If the question is answered yes, it will be awarded 6.25 points.

The following questions comprise the Habitat Category:

Is it forested?

Does the habitat increase the diversity of the watershed?

Does it increase habitat connectivity?

Are there any rare or endangered species or habitats present?

MANAGEABILITY

Manageability is a category that evaluates the ability of the City to manage the potential property. The manageability category has a maximum score of 25 points. This category accounts for a quarter of the overall score. Each question will result in a yes or no. If the question is answered yes, it will be awarded 4.16 points.

The following questions comprise the Manageability Category:

Is it adjacent to the watershed active management area?

Is it accessible from the watershed road system?

Will it contribute to annual harvest in the watershed?

Will there be minimal treatments for invasive vegetation?

Is it free of any infrastructure liabilities?

Is the terrain less than 40% slope?



A place where families and businesses thrive.

CITY RECORDER USE ONLY:

AGENDA ITEM #: 8

MEETING DATE: 5/22/17

FINAL ACTION: Approved

Reso 2017-37

CITY COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

TO: *City Council*

FROM: *Jesse VanderZanden, City Manager*

PROJECT TEAM: *Rob Foster, Public Works Director
Mindy Laird-Garcia, Watershed Technician
Scott Ferguson, Trout Mountain Forestry*

MEETING DATE: *May 22, 2017*

SUBJECT TITLE: *Resolution Adopting the 2017 Watershed Land Acquisition Policy*

ACTION REQUESTED:

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Ordinance	Order	X	Resolution	Motion	Informational

X all that apply

ISSUE STATEMENT:

This resolution is pursuant to City Council's 2016 Objective 1.1: Watershed Land Acquisition Process.

BACKGROUND:

The City Council participated in Work Session held on March 20, 2017, and a presentation was held on May 8, 2017, Council meeting to refine the Watershed Land Acquisition Policy Guidelines. In both the Work Session and Council meeting, Council provided feedback. Council comments and feedback were taken into considered in drafting the guidelines. The guidelines provide a way for properties to be evaluated in three categories: Water Quality, Habitat and Manageability. Each of the categories has questions that give a numerical score for evaluating the properties. Upon approval by the Council, the Watershed Land Acquisition Policy Guidelines will be incorporated as Appendix E to the 2013 adopted Watershed Stewardship Management Plan.

FISCAL IMPACT: None at this time.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the City Council adopt the attached resolution.

ATTACHMENT(s): Resolution, Exhibit A